## "THE PARABLES OF JESUS"

### Introduction To The Parables (Mt 13:1-3,10-17)

[Let's begin this **"Introduction To The Parables"** by noticing...]

1. **THE DEFINITION OF "PARABLE"**
	1. **THE WORD "PARABLE"...**
		1. Is a transliteration of the Greek **"parabole"** (para-bow-LAY)
		2. Means "to place beside, to cast alongside"
		3. As defined by Vine's Expository Dictionary of N.T. Words, it **"signifies a placing of one thing beside another with a view to comparison"**
		4. Wiersbe's description of a parable...
			1. As **"a story that places one thing beside another for the purpose of teaching"**
			2. **"It puts the known next to the unknown so that we may learn"**
		5. A parable can usually be identified by the use of the word **"\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_"** - cf. [**Mt 13:31**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2013.31)**,**[**33**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2013.33)
2. **THE PURPOSE OF THE PARABLES OF JESUS**
	1. **THE PRIMARY PURPOSE WAS TO "CONCEAL"...**
		1. By resorting to parables, Jesus effectively separated the truth-seekers from the curiosity-seekers!
			1. Matthew 13:10-15
	2. **BUT ANOTHER PURPOSE WAS TO "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_"**
3. **THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PARABLES OF JESUS**
	1. **THE GENERAL THEME IS "THE KINGDOM OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_"...**
		1. As illustrated with several parables, which all start with **"The kingdom of heaven is like..."** - [**Mt 13:24**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2013.24)**,**[**31**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2013.31)**,**[**33**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2013.33)**,**[**44**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2013.44)**,**[**45**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2013.45)**,**[**47**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2013.47)
	2. **THREE "SUB-THEMES" ARE STRESSED IN THE PARABLES...**
		1. **The character of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
		2. **The character of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
		3. **The character of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
4. **THE INTERPRETATION OF THE PARABLES OF JESUS**
	1. **THERE ARE TWO EXTREMES TO AVOID...**
		1. Seeking to find some spiritual truth in every little detail
		2. Saying that there is only ONE spiritual truth in each parable
	2. **SOME GUIDELINES FOR PROPER INTERPRETATION...**
		1. Learn from the explanations Jesus gave in those parables He explained
			1. Understanding the parable of the sower helps us to understand other parables - [**Mk 4:13**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mark%204.13)
			2. Jesus therefore went on to explain that parable...
		2. Look for the CENTRAL truth of the parable, making sure that any other truths gleaned from the parable are in harmony with it
		3. Consider carefully the CONTEXT of Jesus words...
			1. Looking for an introduction or an application which may give insight
			2. As supplied by either the Lord Himself, or His inspired writers
		4. Don't use the parables to formulate new doctrine
			1. Remember, parables were originally told to conceal, so they are not always that clear in their meaning
			2. Therefore don't try to build a case for a doctrine based solely on a parable

### Defining The Kingdom Of Heaven (Mt 13:11)

##### INTRODUCTION

1. **THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN vs. THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

**WHY THE DIFFERENT EXPRESSIONS?**

1. **IT INVOLVES FOUR INTER-RELATED CONCEPTS**

**A. THE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD...**

**B. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ IN NATURE...**

**C. VISIBLY MANIFESTED TODAY IN THE LORD'S \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**D. BOTH \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

One principle concerning entering kingdom that was a mystery to Nicodemus at first was the need to be born again ([**Jn 3:3-4**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/John%203.3-4)). But then Jesus explained that the new birth was one of water and the Spirit ([**Jn 3:5**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/John%203.5)).

Is that still a mystery to you? Then consider [**Acts 2:38**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Acts%202.38) and [**Titus 3:5**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Titus%203.5)...